

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

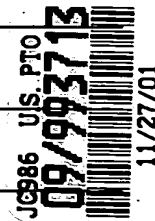
(Use several sheets if necessary)

(37 CFR 1.98(b))

APPLICANT  
Philippe BENEZECH et al.

FILING DATE  
27 November 2001

GROUP



**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |    | PATENT NUMBER | ISSUE<br>DATE | PATENTEE         | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|----|---------------|---------------|------------------|-------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| TN                  | AA | 5,697,063     | 12/97         | Kishigami et al. |       |              |                               |
| TN                  | AB | 5,969,606     | 10/99         | Reber et al.     |       |              |                               |
|                     | AC |               |               |                  |       |              |                               |
|                     | AD |               |               |                  |       |              |                               |
|                     | AE |               |               |                  |       |              |                               |
|                     | AF |               |               |                  |       |              |                               |
|                     | AG |               |               |                  |       |              |                               |

**FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION**

|    |    | DOCUMENT NO. | PUBL.<br>DATE | COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE    | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO |
|----|----|--------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-------|--------------|-----------------------|
| TN | AH | 0 869 625 A1 | 10/98         | European                    |       |              | Yes                   |
|    | AI | 63138840     | 6/88          | Patent Abstract of<br>Japan |       |              | Yes                   |
|    | AJ | 06140988     | 10/92         | Patent Abstract of<br>Japan |       |              | Yes                   |
|    | AK | WO 94/27117  | 11/94         | International               |       |              | Yes                   |
|    | AL | WO 00/33005  | 6/00          | International               |       |              | No                    |
|    | AM | 2 298 998 A  | 9/96          | United Kingdom              |       |              | Yes                   |
|    | AN | 2 308 947 A  | 7/97          | United Kingdom              |       |              | Yes                   |

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication)**

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|--|----|--|
|  | AO |  |
|  | AP |  |
|  | AQ |  |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.